

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2013 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #36

Summer Announcement #33, District 2 and District 3 Subsistence Fishing Schedules

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 75,000 Chinook salmon through June 30 is well below the historical average of 112,000 for this date. Poor run sizes in recent years warrant continued caution as the 2013 Chinook salmon run continues to develop.

Based on run assessment information and consistent with preseason management strategies, additional measures are being taken to conserve Chinook salmon for escapement.

District 2 Subsistence Gillnet Salmon Fishing: District 2 is currently closed to subsistence salmon fishing with gillnets. However, a reduced subsistence fishing period with 6-inch or smaller mesh size gillnets is being allowed to target abundant summer chum salmon while avoiding Chinook salmon.

Subsistence salmon fishing will be open for one 12-hour period from 8:00 p.m. Thursday, July 4, until 8:00 a.m., Friday, July 5, with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to target summer chum salmon. Subsistence fishermen using 6-inch or smaller mesh size may keep Chinook salmon for subsistence purposes.

District 3: District 3 is currently closed to subsistence salmon fishing and will remain closed during the next scheduled subsistence salmon fishing period which was to begin at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, July 3, to conserve Chinook salmon.

As a reminder, in the Innoko River, subsistence salmon fishing is open 7 days a week, 24 hours per day with gillnets restricted to 6-inch or smaller mesh size to target summer chum salmon.

Fishermen in District 2 and District 3 should stand by for short notice news releases on radio regarding the salmon fishing schedules. The department will notify fishermen by July 6 concerning the subsistence salmon fishing schedule in these districts.

During the subsistence salmon fishing closures, all gillnets with a mesh size greater than four inches and a length greater than 60 feet must be removed from the water.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADFG office in Emmonak at 949-1320 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at 456-0418 or in Emmonak at 949-1825.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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